

Progress and Prosperity

As Understood by JAMES
H. FALCONER.

A Convert to the Government.

The following letter was written to Mr. Charles Semlin, leader of the Opposition, by J. H. Falconer. As Mr. Semlin would not deal with Falconer in any way, that mercenary individual immediately went over to the government and is now one of its loudest-mouthed supporters:

Midway, June 28th, 1897.

My Dear Mr. Semlin:—I have been intending to write you for some little time—since I was in Grand Forks on the 4th June.

I was and have been in close consultation with the prominent opposition friends in all this district, and the great cry is some one man who is authorized to perfect organization. I have been in close touch with Mr. Peter McCallum and Mr. Hays and many other prominent friends of yours, and they have asked me to write you in respect to this very important matter. 1st. They desire to have an arrangement of press support.

2nd. The raising of a fund of money for campaign work.

3rd. Conventions called for purposes of drafting a platform and sundry other purposes, and redistribution.

I may say for myself that this part of the country is red-hot against the government, but they say that one is backward and the other does not care to put himself forward in the work, but if there was some one appointed to that end, an organizer, everything would go swimming. My intention after leaving this district is to proceed to Ymir, otherwise known as Quartz Creek, but will first be at Bossburg until the 15th July. I will then go over pretty well all that portion of Kootenay, then to the Slocan, and from there down to Revelstoke, Donald, Golden, and up to Fort Steele. I do not expect to return to Victoria until November, and will be in British Columbia all the time. The battle is yours if this matter is not delayed. Have a meeting of your friends, Sword and others; guarantee a limited salary, and I will pull you through as sure as the sun shines.

I will not dwell upon this matter any further, as I know you are of the same opinion as I am, that organization is absolutely necessary.

If you would send me instructions as well to collect for campaign purposes I feel satisfied it can be done.

I have organized strong courts of I. O. Foresters in Marcus, Grand Forks, Greenwood, Carson, and now at Midway, and have been tendered banquets galore.

My address after Bossburg for eight days will be Northport, Wash., then Ymir, B. C., then Nelson, Rossland, etc., etc. etc.

Believe me, your obedient servant,

JAMES H. FALCONER,

Deputy Supreme Chief Ranger, I.O.F.